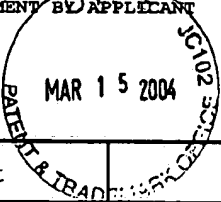


Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

+

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE


Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT 		Application Number	09/989,515		
		Filing Date	November 20, 2001		
		First Named Inventor	Y. TAMAKOSHI		
		Group Art Unit	2878		
		Examiner Name	Albert J. Gagliardi		
Sheet		of		Attorney Docket Number	01752/LH

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits [*]	Cite No ¹	Document Number	Kind Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion
apw		2002/0122211	A1	AONUMA, Masashi	09-05-2002	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits [*]	Cite No ¹	Off c ³	Document Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	5/30/04
--------------------	---	-----------------	---------

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: March 15, 2004